

Serial No. 10/701,503

Docket No.: 1572.1192

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with strikethrough. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claim 24 without prejudice or disclaimer, AMEND claims 1-3, 7-10, and 19-23, in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of controlling a dispenser having a driving part discharging objects, and a switching part controlling the driving part to operate and stop, a discharging lever turning the switching part on/off, and a discharging shutter opening a discharging hole through which the objects are discharged, wherein the opening of the discharging shutter is coupled with the operation of the discharging lever turning on the switching part, comprising:

sensing whether the switching part is turned on or off; and

controlling the driving part to operate after a lapse of a predetermined delay time since the switching part is turned on.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 1, further comprising controlling the driving part to stop as soon as wherein:

the dispenser has a solenoid valve releasing the discharging shutter from an opened state so as to make the discharging shutter cover the discharging hole; and

the method further comprises opening the discharging hole when the discharging lever turns on the switching part, and closing the discharging hole by the solenoid valve after a lapse of a predetermined operating time since the switching part is turned off.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 2, wherein the method further comprises opening a discharging hole when the switching part is turned on, and closing the discharging hole after a lapse of predetermined operating time since further comprising controlling the driving part to stop as soon as the switching part is turned off.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 3, further comprising controlling the driving part to operate as soon as the switching part is turned on again before a predetermined restart time passes since the switching part is turned off.

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5. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 4, wherein the predetermined restart time is shorter than the predetermined operating time.

6. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 3, wherein the lapse of the predetermined operating time is determined after a last turning off of the switching part, in response to the switching part being turned on again during the predetermined operating time.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 1, 2, further comprising controlling the driving part to not operate in response to the switching part being turned off before the lapse of the predetermined delay time.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A dispenser to discharge objects, comprising:
a driving part discharging the objects;
a switching part;
a discharging lever turning the switching part on/off;
a discharging shutter opening a discharging hole through which the objects are discharged, wherein the opening of the discharging shutter is coupled with the operation of the discharging lever turning on the switching part; and
a controller controlling the driving part to operate after a lapse of a predetermined delay time since the switching part is turned on.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The dispenser according to claim 8, wherein the controller controls the driving part to stop as soon as the switching part is turned off, further comprising a solenoid valve releasing the discharging shutter from an opened state so as to make the discharging shutter cover the discharging hole.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The dispenser according to claim 9, wherein the controller controls the driving part to stop as soon as the switching part is turned off, further comprising:
a discharging lever turning the switching part on/off;
a discharging shutter opening a discharging hole through which the objects are discharged, wherein the opening of the discharging shutter is coupled with the discharging lever turning on the switching part; and
a solenoid valve releasing the discharging shutter from an opened state so as to make the discharging shutter cover the discharging hole.

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11. (ORIGINAL) The dispenser according to claim 8, wherein the switching part is turned on when the discharging lever is moved from an original position, and turned off when the discharging lever begins moving back to the original position.

12. (ORIGINAL) The dispenser according to claim 11, wherein the switching part is turned on at an earlier part of the movement of the discharging lever, and the discharging shutter is opened at a later part of the movement of the discharging lever.

13. (ORIGINAL) The dispenser according to claim 10, wherein the controller controls the solenoid valve to release the discharging shutter from the opened state after a lapse of a predetermined operating time since the switching part is turned off.

14. (ORIGINAL) The dispenser according to claim 13, wherein the controller determines the lapse of the predetermined operating time after a last turning off of the switching part, in response to the switching part being turned on again during the predetermined operating time.

15. (ORIGINAL) The dispenser according to claim 13, wherein the controller controls the driving part to operate as soon as the switching part is turned on again before a predetermined restart time passes since the switching part is turned off.

16. (ORIGINAL) The dispenser according to claim 15, wherein the predetermined restart time is shorter than the predetermined operating time.

17. (ORIGINAL) The dispenser according to claim 10, wherein the driving part is a motor.

18. (ORIGINAL) The dispenser according to claim 17, wherein the controller further comprises:

a motor relay operating the motor after the predetermined delay time;
a valve relay operating the solenoid valve; and
a microprocessor controlling the motor relay and valve relay, and determining when the switching part is turned on/off.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The dispenser according to claim 8, wherein the

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controller controls the driving part not to operate in response to the switching part being turned off before the lapse of the predetermined delay time.

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The dispenser according to claim 8, wherein the driving part is a reciprocating piston.

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A refrigerator comprising:

a main cabinet comprising at least one storage compartment having a front opening;
a door opening and closing the front opening of the storage compartment; and
a dispenser to discharge objects, the dispenser comprising:

a driving part discharging objects,

a switching part, and

a discharging lever turning the switching part on/off,

a discharging shutter opening a discharging hole through which the objects are discharged, wherein the opening of the discharging shutter is coupled with the operation of the discharging lever turning on the switching part, and

a controller controlling the driving part to operate after a lapse of a predetermined delay time since the switching part is turned on.

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The refrigerator according to claim 21, wherein the controller controls the driving part to stop as soon as the switching part is turned off, further comprising a solenoid valve releasing the discharging shutter from an opened state so as to make the discharging shutter cover the discharging hole.

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The refrigerator according to claim 21, wherein the controller controls the driving part to stop as soon as the switching part is turned off, further comprising:

a discharging lever turning the switching part on/off;

a discharging shutter opening a discharging hole through which the objects are discharged, wherein the opening of the discharging shutter is coupled with the discharging lever turning on the switching part, and

a solenoid valve releasing the discharging shutter from an opened state so as to make the discharging shutter cover the discharging hole.

24. (CANCELLED)